

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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## Editorial

### Sample Tracts

For the past year and a half we have been offering a package of tracts, containing a sample of each one in the office. Several of these tracts are now out of print and we can no longer furnish these sample packages. The tracts out of print are not likely to be reprinted, and until further notice no sample packages are furnished. We hope however to add others to the list, and samples of the revised list will be furnished same as before. This does not mean that we have no tracts for sale. On page 16 will be found a list of what we have and the prices of same.

### An Amazing Incongruity

An instance of an incongruity which is not only astonishing, but which borders on sacrilege, was reported a few days ago in the daily papers. It was the occasion of the meeting of the Alumni Association of the Holy Ghost College, Pittsburgh, Pa. The display lines at the head of the report which attracted our attention, were as follows: "Cards and Dancing, Euchre and Reception of the Alumni Association of the Holy Ghost College." What fellowship has light with darkness, sin with holiness, faith with unbelief? "Come out from among them and be ye separate," is the injunction of holy writ. To associate cards and dancing and euchre with an institution bearing the name of the third person in the holy trinity seems to us an inconsistency that should put the blush of shame on all who have any reverence for things sacred.

### Working All the Year

A New York brewer is reported to have said, "The church people can drive us when they try, and they know it. Our hope is in working after they grow tired, and continuing to work three hundred and sixty-five days in the year." This is a sad, but nevertheless, just reflection upon the great majority of church members in this land. The brewer is right, the church *can* drive the saloon, but in many cases the saloon drives the church, or at any rate it drives church members, it drives them to the polls and makes them vote in its favor. The fact that the church *can* drive the saloon is a reason why it should, and failure to do so places the responsibility where it belongs, on the church. While the saloon keeper works 365 days in the year for his own interests, church members as a rule work fifty-two days, that

is each Sabbath, against the liquor business, and that mostly in prayer and song. The one day in the year on which the church member has an opportunity to strike a practical blow at the saloon and thus answer his own prayers, he fails to utilize. Next week's paper will explain it all in a cut on page three. Look for it.

### Religious Life in the U. S. Army

Active Service; or Gospel Work Among the Soldiers of the United States Army, is the title of an octavo pamphlet of 96 pages, just issued by the United States Army Aid Association, of New York. It is a work of much general interest on subjects but little known to the religious world. Incidentally it reveals much of the Barrack life of the American soldier in the army life of today. It can be had free, by any person interested, by addressing Major John B. Ketchum, 82 Nassau Street, N. Y. City, N. Y.

### Enterprise and Self-Sacrifice

In all spiritual enterprises, whether of an individual or a cooperative nature, the chief difficulty arises from a condition of apathy and indifference, into which we fall quite naturally. Most men are constitutionally averse to effort of a heroic sort, and there is no particular kind of effort quite so painful, quite so exacting and exhausting as the ordeal of self sacrifice. But self-sacrifice is the law of all spiritual progress, the essential precedent of spiritual enterprise, and accordingly without it we can accomplish nothing. Moreover, self-sacrifice is a kind of spiritual athletics which imparts a remarkable vigor to the soul, the lack of which accounts for the unfruitfulness of so many lives. How abundantly are its results in all good works without, and in all wholesome graces within. It is paying our college debt, sustaining promising missions in Chicago and Washington, looking with resolute face toward the foreign field, and promoting a thousand laudable enterprises all over the church. Let it have free course. Apply it till it hurts, and we will see, around and within, abundant and glorious results, and be satisfied with our travail of soul.

### No Natural Tendency Toward Holiness

It is doubtful whether we possess a single natural impulse, or tendency, or leaning, toward true holiness. We might quote numerous scriptures in support of this doubt, but it is only necessary to appeal to the general conclusions of experience. Enmity toward God, resistance to divine grace, aversion to

true holiness, is doubtless more pronounced in some than in others, but in greater or less degree it exists in all. Here arises the painful, the violent, the often agonizing conflict in the soul, on the issue of which hangs eternal destiny. And here also may be found a snare in the perfectly natural effort to modify the struggle and render it less violent, less painful by bringing our conception of the claims of holiness down to the level of a docile acquiescence, an amiable complacency, a mere intellectual assent, a temper drained of all positive force, of all spiritual energy. We are not called upon to lie in the mud behind breastworks, but to march afield with flying banners, seeking every spiritual foe in every possible lair, and conquering for Christ the whole vast empire of the soul.

### Our Sunday School Papers

All the numbers of *Our Little Folks* for the quarter except March 27, have been mailed. All the numbers of *Cheering Words* except the last two have been mailed. These will be sent out next week. So far in the year there has been no delay in any of our papers. Everything is going out on time, and we hope to be able to keep up our promptness throughout the year. Announcements for the second quarter's literature will be made soon, and unless something unforeseen happens, the *Quarterlies* will be out at least ten days earlier than before. We invite all new schools to send for samples and particulars of our literature. Sent free on application.

### Trusting and Working

Planning, working, watching, the putting forth of every kind of energy, is not incompatible with an attitude of perfect trust. Faith is always mighty in works, because faith is the inner soul of that fine enthusiasm which unlocks the door of all possibilities, and doubts only that anything is impossible.

### The United States Senate

Once this was an august body, composed of men who represented the character and brains of the country, men whose brain was in their heart and whose heart was in their brain, whose first and only thought was the welfare of the country which they were called to serve. But what shall be said of it now? The Senate has lost, not only its brains, but its good sense also. Wrangling about questions which in themselves possess no merit, the senseless discussions to which members of that body devote themselves, the fightings